

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RANGOO 02344 01 OF 02 071349Z

42

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DEAE-00

IO-13 JUSE-00 SNM-02 OES-06 ACDA-07 SCCT-01 CU-02

MMO-01 GSA-01 FEAE-00 ERDA-05 DHA-02 HEW-04 MED-02

/151 W

----- 039191

R 061030Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1885

INFO CINCPAC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMCONSUL MANDALAY

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

DEA BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USLO PENING

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 RANGOON 2344

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BM, PINT, SNAR, PFOR

SUBJ: JOINT WEEKA #26, JULY 1-6

CONTENTS

1. INSURGENTS ATTACK MYITKYINA AIRPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 RANGOO 02344 01 OF 02 071349Z

2. BAF DAKOTA CRASHES

3. COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCE GIVEN LOW INCOME WORKERS
4. MASS SUPPORT GENERATED FOR NE WIN SPEECH
5. BCP CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO CCP
6. NARCOTICS: SEIZURE AND ARRESTS
7. NARCOTICS: REHABILITATION
8. BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION OPENS
9. WRITERS AND JOURNALISTS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FORMED
10. GERMAN MONEY FOR MONywa COPPER MINE?
11. OIL DEVELOPMENTS
12. CHOLERA, DENGUE OUTBREAKS (END CONTENTS)

1. INSURGENTS ATTACK MYITKYINA AIRPORT (LOU)
INSURGENTS, PROBABLY OF THE KICHIN INDEPENDENCE ARMY (KIA),
ATTACKED MYITKYINA AIRFIELD JULY 4 WHILE A BAC FOCKER F-28
JET WAS ON THE GROUND PREPARING TO RETURN TO MVO ANDALAY AND
RANGOON ON A REGULARLY SCHEDULED FLIGHT. ACCORDING TO
AVAILABLE INFORMATION (THERE HAVE BEEN NO PUBLISHED REPORTS),
A SMALL GROUP OF INSURGENTS DROVE ONTO THE AIRFIELD IN A
VEEP AND FIRED A ROCKET-TYPE WEAPON AT THE AIRCRAFT. IT
MISSED THE PLANE BUT HIT CLOSE TO A GROUP OF PASSENGERS
AND OTHER PEOPLE NEARBY. THIS WAS FOLLOWED UP BY SMALL
ARMS FIRE INTO THE CROWD. AT LEAST ONE PERSON WAS KILLED
(A BAC FLIGHT STEWARD, WHOSE OBITUARY NOTICE WAS PRINTED
IN THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY), AND THERE WERE REPORTEDLY
SEVERAL MORE KILLED AND INJURED, PERHAPS AS MANY AS 20-30.
THE AIRCRAFT WAS NOT DAMAGED.
COMMENT: THERE WAS A SIMILAR INCIDENT AT BHAMO LAST
SEPTEMBER 27 WHEN INSURGENTS (ALSO PROBABLY KIA) ATTACKED
A BAC F-27 AIRCRAFT WHILE IT WAS ON THE GROUND.

2. BAF DAKOTA CRASHES (UNCL)
BECAUSE OF AN EXPLOSION OF UNDETERMINED ORIGIN, A BURMESE
AIR FORCE DAKOTA (RXARU) CRASHED JULY 3 WHILE ON A FLIGHT
FROM KENG TUNG TO RANGOON. ALL 17 PEOPLE ABOARD WERE
KILLED.

3. COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCE GIVEN LOW INCOME WORKERS (LOU)
THE GUB MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FINANCE ANNOUNCED A
TEMPORARY COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCE, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, TO
BE GRANTED TO OVER 800,000 WORKERS IN LOWER INCOME BRACKETS,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 RANGOO 02344 01 OF 02 071349Z

INCLUDING MILITARY AND POLICE PERSONNEL. THE SPECIAL
ALLOWANCE PROVIDES WORKERS RECEIVING LESS THAN K440 PER
MONTH AN AVERAGE 33 PERCENT WAGE INCREASE. THIS IS IN
KEEPING WITH PRESIDENT NE WIN'S PROMISE OF RELIEF FOR
LOW INCOME WORKERS (WEKA #25, ITEM 4). THE GUB ESTIMATES
THAT THE TOTAL COST OF THE WAGE BOOST WILL BE K356 MILLION
PER YEAR. BOARDS AND CORPORATIONS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO
INCREASE PRICES AS THE RESULT OF THE WAGE HIKES.

COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE NEW ALLOWANCES DO NOT AFFECT HIGHER INCOME WORKERS, THIS IS THE FIRST DIRECT SALARY INCREASE FOR ANY SEGMENT OF BURMA'S WORKING POPULATION SINCE 1972. IT IS OFFICIALLY TERMED A "TEMPORARY ALLOWANCE," BUT IT IS UNLIKELY TO BE RESCINDED IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE ACT REPRESENTS A SMALL MEASURE OF MUCH-NEEDED WAGE REFORM.

4. MASS SUPPORT GENERATED FOR NE WIN SPEECH (LOU)
IN THE WEEK SINCE PRESIDENT NE WIN (IN HIS CAPACITY AS BSPP CHAIRMAN) DELIVERED HIS SPEECH TO THE BSPP CENTRAL COMMITTEE ANNOUNCING RELIEF FOR LOW INCOME WORKERS AND CALLING FOR INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY, THE PRESS HAS CARRIED DAILY ARTICLES REPORTING MASS MEETINGS AND OTHER PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS OF SUPPORT FOR THE SPEECH, INCLUDING CONTRIBUTIONS OF VOLUNTARY LABOR ON SUNDAYS.

COMMENT: WHILE SOME ORGANIZED EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT IS USUAL AFTER MAJOR SPEECHES BY HIGH GUB OFFICIALS, THE PRESENT CAMPAIGN SEEMS UNUSUALLY INTENSE. IT MAY BE THAT THE GUB HOPES TO EMULATE SIMILAR CAMPAIGNS IN CHINA AND ELSEWHERE, AND BY CREATING ENTHUSIASM ACHIEVE ACTUAL PRODUCTION INCREASES.

5. BCP CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO CCP (LOU)
FBIS HAS REPORTED (011849Z JUL 76) THE JULY 1 NCNA RELEASE OF THE TEXT OF THE BCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE MESSAGE TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRATULATING IT ON THE 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PARTY'S FOUNDING. THE MESSAGE IS A REHASH OF CURRENT CHINESE POLITICAL THEMES, AND INCLUDES AN ATTACK ON THE "MODERN REVISIONISTS" OF THE SOVIET UNION AS WELL AS AN EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT FOR STEPS TAKEN AGAINST THE "RIGHTIST CHIEFTAIN" TENG HSIAO-PING.

COMMENT: THE BCP MESSAGE LEAVES LITTLE DOUBT WHERE THE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 RANGOO 02344 01 OF 02 071349Z

ULTIMATE LOYALTY OF THE BCP LIES.

6. NARCOTICS: SEIZURES AND ARRESTS (UNCL)
THE CAMPAIGN IN URBAN AREAS AGAINST SHVDDLERS AND ABUSERS CONTINUED IN HIGH GEAR DURING THE PAST WEEK. THE MORE OUTSTANDING EXAMPLES WERE A CITY-WIDE, ONE-DAY SWEEP RUMSAUNGGYI, WHICH NETTED 64 ARRESTS FOR POSSESSION OF NARCOTICS. IN KALEMYO, CHIQEHILLS, AN OPIUM DEN WAS RAIDED AND 20 OFFENDERS WERE ARRESTED FOR POSSESSION. OTHER ACTIONS INCLUDED THE SEIZURE OF KYAT 18,000 WORTH OF HEROIN FROM ONE PEDDLER IN MANDALAY AND SIX ARRESTS IN OTHER AREAS FOR POSSESSION OF HEROIN.

7. NARCOTICS: REHABILITATION (UNCL)
A JUNE 25 NEWS RELEASE REPORTED THAT A REHABILITATION

CENTER LOCATED IN PUTAO, KACHIN STATE, HABHTREATED 540
OPIUM ADDICTS SINCE THE INVOKING OF THE 1974 DRUG LAW;
75 PERCENT OF THEM WERE CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN CURED.
UNQTE.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RANGOO 02344 02 OF 02 061140Z

65

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DEAE-00

IO-13 JUSE-00 SNM-02 OES-06 ACDA-07 SCCT-01 CU-02

MMO-01 GSA-01 FEAE-00 ERDA-05 DHA-02 HEW-04 MED-02

/151 W

----- 022748

R 061030Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1886
INFO /CINCPAC
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMCONSUL MANDALAY
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
DEA BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 RANGOON 2344

8. BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION OPENS (UNCL)
AMBASSADOR OSBORN ON JULY 1 INAUGURATED THE AMERICAN

REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION AT RANGOON'S ENVOY
HALL BEFOR AN AUDIENCE OF 338 GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND
GUESTS, INCLUDING THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
U WIN. THE EXHIBITION, WITH ITS FOUR MAJOR EXHIBIT AREAS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 RANGOO 02344 02 OF 02 061140Z

REFLECTING AMERICA'S PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE TOGETHER
WITH BURMA-AMERICA RELATIONS, IS PROVING TO BE A GREAT
ATTRACTION TO THE BURMESE PUBLIC. DURING THE FIRST FOUR
DAYS, 41,000 PERSONS VISITED THE EXHIBITION, INCLUDING
DR. MAUNG MAUNG, STATE COUNCILLOR, U HLA MOE, BSPP
CENTRAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SECRETARY AND OTHER GOVERNMENT,
PARTY, AND MILITARY OFFICIALS.

9. WRITERS AND JOURNALISTS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FORMED (UNCL)
THE BSPP HAS TAKEN ANOTHER STEP TOWARD THE LONG-DELAYED
FORMATION OF A WRITERS AND JOURNALISTS FEDERATION WITH
THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF AN ORGANIZING COMMITTEE. THE COM-
MITTEE, HEADED BY U HTEIN LIN, PARTY INSPECTION COMMITTEE
MEMBER AND
CHIEF EDITOR OF BOTATAUNG DAILY, IS MADE UP
OF SIXTEEN EDITORS, WRITERS AND JOURNALISTS, ALL BSPP
MEMBERS. AN EARLIER COMMITTEE, THE LITERARY WORKERS'
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, FORMED BY THE MINISTRY OF INFORMA-
TION IN 1966, HAVING NEVER ADVANCED PAST THE ORGANIZATION
STAGE, IS NOW FORMALLY DISSOLVED. THE FUNCTION OF THE
NEW FEDERATION IS TO DEVELOP GUIDELINES FOR SOCIALIST
LITERATURE.

10. GERMAN MONEY FOR MONYWA COPPER MINE? (CONF)
ACCORDING TO DR. BA THAN HAQ, WHO HAS JUST RESIGNED AS
HEAD OF THE MYANMA MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION,
ARRANGEMENTS ARE NEAR COMPLETION FOR THE TRANSFER OF
A LARGE PART OF THE DM65 MILLION WEST GERMAN LOAN
ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR USE IN MODERNIZATION OF THE
BAWDWIN MINE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MONYWA COPPER
DEPOSIT. DR. BA THAN HAQ ALSO STATES THAT THE WEST
GERMANS ARE STILL INTERESTED IN ASSISTING WITH THE
CONSTRUCTION OF A COPPER REFINERY IN BURMA. THE ONLY
CONDITION APPEARS TO BE A GERMAN REQUEST THAT THEY BE
GUARANTEED THE OPPORTUNITY TO BID ON THE MINE/SMELTER
PRODUCTION.

11. OIL DEVELOPMENTS (LOU)
ESSO HAS PASSED THE 4850 FOOT LEVEL IN ITS NEW WELL IN
BLOCK M-11. NO SIGNIFICANT DISCOVERY HAS YET BEEN MADE.
AN AMERICAN OIL COMPANY, TEXAS PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 RANGOO 02344 02 OF 02 061140Z

RECENTLY APPROACHED MOC WITH AN OFFER TO NEGOTIATE IMMEDIATELY A CONCESSION IN AN UNSPECIFIED BLOCK, WITH PREDRILLING SURVEYS TO BEGIN VERY SOON. THIS OFFER WAS REJECTED OT OF HAND BY MOC, WHICH MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT FURTHER CONCESSIONS WILL BE MADE ONLY BY A CAREFULLY STRUCTURED PROCESS UTILIZING INTERNATIONAL TENDER ANNOUNCEMENTS. THE FIRMNESS OF MOC'S REACTION TO THE TEXAS PACIFIC OVERTURE INDICATES THAT THE GUB IS NOT INTERESTED IN LEASING ADDITIONAL BLOCKS AT THE MOMENT, DESPITE DISCOURAGING DRILLING RESULTS AND INDICATIONS THAT SOME OF THE PRESENT CONCESSIONAIRES ARE THINKING OF LEAVING. THE EARLIEST DATE AT WHICH FURTHER CONCESSIONS MIGHT BE GRANTED WOULD APPEAR TO BE MID-1977, AFTER THE FORTHCOMING ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS OVER EXTENSION OF PRESENT CONCESSIONS HAS CONCLUDED.

12. CHOLERA, DENGUE OUTBREAKS (UNCL)

FURTHER SEASONAL OUTBREAKS OF CHOLERA AND DENGUE FEVER HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN BURMA. TWENTY CASES OF DENGUE ARE CURRENTLY AT THE MANDALAY GENERAL HOSPITAL, AND A MILD OUTBREAK IS ALSO REPORTED IN BASSEIN. THREE PEOPLE HAVE DIED OF A GASTROINTESTINAL AILMENT, PRESUMABLY CHOLERA, AT LETPADAN, ABOUT SIXTY MILES NORTH OF RANGOON.

COMMENT: COMMON PRACTICE IS TO DISPATCH EPIDEMIC CONTROL TEAMS TO THREATENED AREAS. THIS PRACTICE IS USUALLY SUCCESSFUL IN SUPPRESSING THE OUTBREAK FOR SOME TIME.

OSBORN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, WAGES, DRUG CONTROL, POLITICAL SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976RANGOO02344
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760261-0725
From: RANGOON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760787/aaaaczbu.tel
Line Count: 307
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JOINT WEEKA #26, JULY 1-6 CONTENTS
TAGS: PINT, SNAR, PFOR, PINS, BM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006